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Viewing cable 06RIYADH5601, SAUDI ARABIA ISSUES STATEMENT ON SECURITY

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Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cables unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#06RIYADH5601**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
06RIYADH5601	2006-07-14 00:19	2011-08-30 01:44	CONFIDENTIAL	Embassy Riyadh

Appears in these articles:

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VZCZCXRO8518
OO RUEHBC RUEHDE RUEHKUK
DE RUEHRH #5601 1950019
ZNY CCCCC ZZH ZZK
O 140019Z JUL 06 ZFF4
FM AMEMBASSY RIYADH
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9626
INFO RUEHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE 4726
RUEHJM/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE 4253
RUEHXX/ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHEE/ARAB LEAGUE COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 0682
RUEHJI/AMCONSUL JEDDAH 7470

C O N F I D E N T I A L RIYADH 005601

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 07/14/2016

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SUBJECT: SAUDI ARABIA ISSUES STATEMENT ON SECURITY
SITUATION IN PALESTINE AND LEBANON

REF: A) STATE 114594 B) RIYADH 5600

Classified By: Deputy Chief of Mission Michael Gfoeller
for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

¶1. (U) NIACT precedence justified due to urgency of the message conveyed by the Government of Saudi Arabia.

¶2. (SBU) On July 14, the Saudi Foreign Ministry urgently contacted and delivered to the Ambassador the following official Saudi statement expressing its views on the situation in Palestine and Lebanon.

¶3. (U) Post's informal translation of the Saudi Government's statement follows:

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has believed and still believes in the right of people in a state of occupation to engage in resistance to said occupation in all its forms and counter illegitimate acts intended to erase their identity and change reality on the ground. On the basis of this logic, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has always stood by the side of the legitimate Palestinian resistance with all its capabilities, which are intended to target the military occupation and to avoid harming the innocent. On the same basis, it stood decisively with the Lebanese resistance until the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon ended. The Kingdom therefore views with great concern the painful and bloody events that are troubling security in both Palestine and Lebanon. It wishes to announce clearly that it is essential to differentiate between legitimate resistance and irresponsible adventures engaged in by elements both in the state and behind it without reference to the legitimate authority within their states and without consultation or coordination with the Arab states, thereby leading to an extremely dangerous situation that exposes all the Arab states and their achievements to destruction, without this state having an opinion or say in the adventure. The Kingdom is of the view that the time has come for these elements alone to assume complete responsibility for these irresponsible acts and that they alone are responsible for ending the crisis that they have created. End text.

¶4. (C) Comment: Saudi Arabia is apparently attempting to adopt a firm and balanced position vis-a-vis the crises in Lebanon and Gaza. SAG support for the now-vetoed UNSC resolution, including its apparent refusal to press Qatar for a delay in bringing the resolution to a vote, made clear the Saudi leadership's view that Israeli military operations to date have been excessive, and that the Kingdom is unwavering in its support for the Palestinians and for Lebanon's sovereignty. Those same positions are reflected in the statement translated above. However, the statement is also a clear warning to Hizballah, Hamas, and their Iranian supporters that 1) they started this latest crisis, 2) their actions affect not only Lebanese and Palestinians, but the rest of the Arab world as well, and 3) that they can expect little sympathy or support if they do not end what they have started. End Comment.

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